

CHINA



MAIL

Established February, 1845.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXV. No. 5136.

號三十月二十年九十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1879.

日一十月一十年卯己

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALDER, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTT, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES, HENDY & Co., 4, Old Jewry, E.C. SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE:—LEON DE ROBERT, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.

NEW YORK:—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTT, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BRAY & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE AND STRAITS:—SAYLE & Co., Square, Singapore. C. HENNINGSEN & Co., Manila.

CHINA:—Macao, Messrs A. A. DE MELLO & Co., Swatow, CAMPBELL & Co., Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & Co., Foochow, HADEN & Co., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND, 1,400,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—Hon. W. KESWICK.
E. R. BELLIOS, Esq.
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.
H. HOPKINS, Esq.
A. McIVER, Esq.
F. D. SASSOON, Esq.
W. S. YOUNG, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.
For Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, August 18, 1879.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

(Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED by the INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF 30th APRIL, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP, £3,200,000.
RESERVE FUND, £800,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, RUE BEAURE, PARIS.

AGENCIES and BRANCHES at:

LONDON, BOULON, SAN FRANCISCO, MARSEILLES, BOMBAY, HONGKONG, LYONS, CALCUTTA, HANKOW, NANTES, SHANGHAI, FOOCHOW.

LONDON BANKERS:

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on application, grants Drafts and Credits on all parts of the World, and transacts every description of Banking Exchange Business.

E. G. VOUILLEMONT,
Manager, Shanghai.

Hongkong, May 20, 1879.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

At 3 months' notice 3 per Annum.
" 6 " " 4 " "
" 12 " " 5 " "

Current Accounts kept on Terms which may be learnt on application.

GEO. O. SCOTT,
Acting Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation,
Hongkong, September 4, 1879.

Bank.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

CAPITAL, £800,000.
RESERVE FUND, £150,000.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE CITY BANK.

NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

THE BANK'S BRANCH in Hongkong grants Drafts on London and the Chief Commercial places in Europe and the East; buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, and conducts all kinds of Banking and Exchange Business.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

On CURRENT ACCOUNTS, 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS.

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON & CHINA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

THE following Rates of Interest are allowed on FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 3 " 2 per cent. " "

H. H. NELSON,
Manager.

Hongkong, May 31, 1879.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

Registered in London under the Companies' Act of 1862, on 23rd March, 1866.

Established in Calcutta 20th September, 1863.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £933,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL, £465,250.
RESERVE FUND, £20,000.

HEAD OFFICE:—39A, Threadneedle Street, LONDON, E.C.

LONDON BANKERS:—NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

All descriptions of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance; and on FIXED DEPOSITS according to arrangement—the maximum rate being 5 per cent. per annum.

R. H. SANDEMAN,
Manager.

Hongkong, November 1, 1879.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE undermentioned INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for Public Business upon CHRISTMAS DAY (the 25th inst.), the 26th inst.; and upon the 1st January next.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents,
Canton Insurance Office.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
For the Union Insurance Society of Canton,
N. J. EDE, Secretary.

For the North-China Insurance Company,
REGINALD D. STARKEY,
Acting Agent.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents,
Yangtze Insurance Association.

W. H. RAY, Secretary,
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.

The China Fire Insurance Co., Limited,
JAMES B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.

J. BRADLEE SMITH, Secretary,
The Chinese Insurance Co., Limited.

Hongkong, December 22, 1879. de25

DENTAL NOTICE.

D. R. ROGERS has returned and is now ready to RECEIVE PATIENTS.

No. 7, ARBUTHNOT ROAD.
Hongkong, December 8, 1879.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction

WEDNESDAY,

the 24th December, 1879, at 2 p.m., at his Sales Rooms, Queen's Road,—

An Invoice of JAPANESE PORCELAIN WARE, and CHINESE LACQUERED WARE, &c., comprising:—

Breakfast and Tea Sets, Vases, Jars, Bowls, Plates, Cups, &c.

Glove Boxes, Tea Caddies, and Cigar Boxes.

And, a few DAPHNES, &c., &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, Dec. 22, 1879. de24

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED their Usual Assortment of CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS, Comprising:—
GLOVE and HANDKERCHIEF BOXES.
JEWELRY BOXES and SCENT CADDIES.
PRINCESS STATIONERY CABINETS.
VELVET WORK BAGS.
WORK BOXES in Leather and Fancy Woods.
CARD TRAYS and SCRAP BOOKS.
VELVET PHOTOGRAPH FRAMES.
STATUETTES.

Handsome Bound and Illustrated GIFT BOOKS, Comprising:—
PICTURE GALLERY OF MODERN ART.
SWITZERLAND ILLUSTRATED.
WOODLAND ROMANCE.
THE BIRD, BY JULES MICHELET.
THE INSECT, BY JULES MICHELET.
THE BIRD WORLD.
THE EPIC OF HADES.

A Large Assortment of Newest GIFT BOOKS for Boys and Girls.
CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR CARDS, the Latest Novelties.

Elegantly Dressed FRENCH DOLLS.
DOLLS' PORTMANTEAUX, completely fitted.
SWIMMING and WASHING DOLLS.
MECHANICAL TOYS, in Great Variety.
DOLLS' PERAMBULATORS.

PUZZLES, GAMES, BRICKS.
HORSES and CARTS, WHEEL-BARROWS.
DRUMS, TRUMPETS, GUNS and SWORDS.

THE PRESENT SEASON'S NOVELTIES in COSAQUES, Comprising:—
HELEN'S BABIES' CRACKERS, PICTORIAL.
INGENITA, COMICAL and CLUB CRACKERS.
BELLES of the SEASON, &c., &c., &c.
PAINT BOXES.

CHRISTMAS CAKES and PLUM PUDDINGS.
FRENCH PLUMS. BLOOM MUSCATELS.
CRYSTALLIZED CHOCOLATE BONBONS.
CHOCOLATE in Pretty Boxes, for Presents.

FRENCH BONBONS. DRAGEES.
FRUITS in Noyeau. JUJUBES.
SMYRNA FIGS. BRAZIL NUTS.
BARCELONA ALMONDS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, December 2, 1879. jo2

ED. CHASTEL & Co.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, MARINE HOUSE, 15, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

BEG to call attention to their NEW STOCK of WINES, SPIRITS & LIQUEURS, recently Imported ex Late Arrivals, of the very Highest Class and most Popular brands. Consisting of:—

CLARETS.
St. Emilion.
Margaux.
Chateau Palmer.
Ponsot-Canon.
Chateau Lévillie.
Chateau Larose.
Chateau Richelieu.
Chateau Lafite.

BURGUNDIES.
CHAMBERTIN.
BEAUNE.
POMMARD.
MANZANILLA.
VINO DE PASTO.
AMONTILLADO.

SHERRIES.
FINE OLD PORT WINES.
CHAMPAGNES.
MME. VVE. CLICQUOT-PONSARDIN.
THEOPHILE ROEDERER & Co.
B. & E. PERRIER.

JAS. HENNESSY & Co., *** and CUTLER PALMER'S *** BRANDIES.
FINE OLD GLENLIVET SCOTCH WHISKY.
KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.

SWAINE & BOORD'S OLD TOM GIN.
JOHN DE KUYPER'S HOLLAND GENEVA.
MACKENZIE BROTHERS' PURE-HIGHLAND MALT WHISKY (Dalmore Distillery), a specially selected Blend of 10 years Old Scotch Whisky.

LIQUEURS.
CHATELAIN, COGNAC, ANISETTE, CREME DE VANILLE, CREME DE MOKA, &c., &c.

ED. CHASTEL & Co.
Hongkong, December 22, 1879. jo5

Shipping.

Steamers.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT-POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship "TANAI,"

Command. DE LA MARCELLE, will be despatched for YOKOHAMA shortly after the arrival of the next French Mail from Europe.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.
Hongkong, December 17, 1879.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT-POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship "PEIHO,"

Commandant PASQUALINI, will be despatched for SHANGHAI shortly after her arrival from Europe.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.
Hongkong, December 17, 1879.

Shipping.

Steamers.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHOW.

The Steamship "DOUGLAS,"

Capt. YOUNG, will be despatched for the above Ports on THURSDAY, the 25th inst., at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co.

Hongkong, December 22, 1879. de25

AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR PORT DARWIN, COOKTOWN, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE.

Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates for all Australasian and New Zealand Ports.

TASMANIA, NEW CALEDONIA & FIJI.

The Chartered Steamer "ORUSADER,"

T. ROWIN, Commander, will be despatched as above on or about the 24th inst., instead of as previously notified.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GEO. B. STEVENS & Co.
Hongkong, December 8, 1879. de24

Shipping.

Steamers.

FOR SINGAPORE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling off the usual Coast Ports, and taking through Cargo and Passengers for New Zealand.)

The Eastern and Australian Mail Steam Co.'s Steamer "SOMERSET,"

will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 27th inst., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Hongkong, December 12, 1879. de27

SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO.

The Steamship "BRECONSHIRE,"

Sturrock, Commander, expected here on or about the 26th inst., will have immediate despatch for the above Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 19, 1879.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT.)

The Spanish Steamer "CHURRUCA,"

Capt. ABARCA, shortly expected, will have immediate despatch for the above Port.

For Freight or Passage, apply to REMEDIOS & Co.

Hongkong, December 18, 1879.

SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SINGAPORE & LONDON VIA CANAL.

The Steamship "MERIONETHSHIRE,"

Rickard, Commander, expected here in about a fortnight, will have immediate despatch for the above Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 13, 1879.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Company's Steamship "ANTENOR,"

will be despatched on or about the 22nd inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, December 10, 1879.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Company's Steamship "ANCHISES,"

Capt. C. JACKSON, will be despatched on or about the 7th January, 1880.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, December 22, 1879.

FOR NEW YORK.

The Steamship "BENGLOE,"

due here immediately, will have room for a limited amount of Cargo.

For Freight, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 17, 1879. de27

CASTLE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Steamship "FLEURS CASTLE,"

KIDDER, Commander, expected here in about a fortnight, will have immediate despatch for the above Port.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 11, 1879.

Sailing Vessels.

FOR LONDON.

The A 1 British Bark "WINLOW,"

BARKER, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL & Co.

Hongkong, December 18, 1879.

Sailing Vessels.

FOR NEW YORK.

The A 1 British Bark "CARTMORN,"

ELLWOOD, Master, will load here and at Whampoa for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, December 1, 1879.

FOR LONDON.

The A 1 British Bark "CHINAMAN,"

MACKENZIE, Master, will load here and at Whampoa for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL & Co.

Hongkong, December 1, 1879.

FOR LONDON.

The A 1 British Bark "ELIZABETH CHILDS,"

LINDBERGH, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL & Co.

Hongkong, December 4, 1879.

FOR HAMBURG.

The A 1 German Bark "PALMA,"

BINGE, Master, will load here and at Whampoa for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL & Co.

Hongkong, December 1, 1879.

FOR HAMBURG.

The A 1 German Bark "AUGUST,"

Riss, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL & Co.

Hongkong, December 1, 1879.

FOR NEW YORK.

For Sale.

CHRISTMAS STORES.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.,

BEG to call attention to the following New Supply of STORES, which they have Received

Ex "GORDON CASTLE,"
And Other Recent Arrivals.

CHRISTMAS CAKES, 4-lb., 5-lb. and 6-lb. each.
CHRISTMAS PLUM PUDDINGS.
PURE AMERICAN CANDIES.
PURE SCOTCH CANDIES.
DRAGKES, ALMONDS.
FANCY CHOCOLATES.
MASSON'S CHOCOLATE CREAMS.
NOUGATINES.
CRYSTALLIZED MELTZ FRUITS.
New Designs in COSAQUES.
"CETWAYO'S HAT BOX."
"MARQUETTE'S JEWEL CASKET."
"GRANDMA'S BONNET BOX."
"EDWIN and ANGELINA."
&c., &c., &c.

SMYRNA FIGS.
Muscato BLOOM RAISINS.
JORDAN ALMONDS.
BRAZIL NUTS.
PECAN NUTS.
HICKORY NUTS.
Cooking and Table PRUNES.
Pudding RAISINS and CURRANTS.
Candied PEEL.
MINCEMEAT in 1-lb. tins.
VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA.
CARRAWAY SEEDS.
SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA.
AMERICAN CREAM CHEESE.
SAP SAGE CHEESE.
LIMBURG CHEESE.
PINE APPLE CHEESE.
HAM TONGUE & CHICKEN SAUSAGE.
WESTPHALIAN, BOLOGNA, OXFORD, and TRUFFLED SAUSAGES.
GAME PIES.
Potted MEATS.
Prime Yorkshire HAMS.
Prime Wiltshire BACON in tins & Canvases.
FLOKED OX-TONGUES.
OX-TONGUES in JELLY.
TRUFFLES.
CALIFORNIA ROLL BUTTER.
CURTIS'S Canned DESSERT FRUITS.

HUNTLEY & PALMER'S BISCUITS.
CALIFORNIA CRACKER Co.'s GINGER CAKES.

MILK BISCUITS.
ALPHABET BISCUITS.
OYSTER BISCUITS.
WAFER BISCUITS.
SODA BISCUITS.

First-class and Medium CHAMPAGNES, Pints and Quarts.
HOOK.
SAUTERNES.
CLARET.
Fine Old Pale PORT, 1848.
SACONNE'S Pale Dry SHERRY.
Do. Amontillado SHERRY.
LA GRANDE MARQUE CHARTREUSE, Pints and Quarts.
MARASCHINO DE ZARA.

CURACAO.
Fine Old BOURBON WHISKY.
SCOTCH and IRISH WHISKIES.
BASS'S ALE Bottled by CAMERON and SAUNDERS, Pints and Quarts.
GUINNESS'S STOUT Bottled by E. & J. BURKE, Pints and Quarts.

Specially Selected CIGARS.
Princesses CHEROOTS.
Cavite CHEROOTS.
Princesses CIGARS.
Cavite CIGARS.
Arcoeros CIGARS.
Vegueros CIGARS.
Choice No. 1 Fortin CIGARS in Boxes of 100.
Choice No. 3 Meisig CHEROOTS.
Choice No. 3 Fortin CIGARS.

PRESENTATION BOOKS.
SCIENTIFIC WORKS.
WORKS OF REFERENCE.
SCHOOL BOOKS.

CHILDREN'S STORY BOOKS.
CHILDREN'S TOY BOOKS.
NOVELS.
ATLAS.
HISTORIES.
DICTIONARIES.

OLLENDORFF'S METHOD for Learning FRENCH and SPANISH.
DR. ANN'S METHOD for Learning GERMAN and FRENCH.

ASHER'S MODEL BOOKS of FOREIGN COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE, GERMAN, FRENCH and SPANISH.
"NORTH CHINA HERALD" D A T E BLOCK for 1880.

New SEASON'S PRESENT TEA, in 5 and 10 Catty Boxes.
Hongkong, December 18, 1879.

For Sale.

KELLY & WALSH

HAVE just received a Fine Assortment of ILLUSTRATED and STANDARD WORKS, specially suitable for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

MOORE'S "LALLA ROOKH," Tenniel's Illustrations, ... \$3.50
PICTURES FROM BIBLE LANDS, SWISS PICTURES, ITALIAN PICTURES, &c., each CHAMBERS'S ENCYCLOPEDIA, 10 vols., new edition, ... 80.00

THE GLOBE ENCYCLOPEDIA, 6 vols., ... 25.00
The Handy Vol. SCOTT, in case, ... 7.50
The Handy Vol. TENNYSON, in case, ... 7.50
CHAMBERS'S BOOK OF DAYS, 2 vols., 1/2 calf, ... 11.00
ARCHDEACON GREY'S CHINA, 2 vols., 140 Illustrations, ... 10.00
WEBSTER'S COMPLETE DICTIONARY, full calf, ... 12.00
CHAMBERS'S CYCLOPEDIA of ENGLISH LITERATURE, 2 vols., ... 8.00
HINGTON'S "AUSTRALIAN ABROAD," Illustrated, ... 8.50
SPORT IN MANY LANDS, by "OLD SIEKARRY," ... 8.50
MISS MITFORD'S CHILDREN OF THE VILLAGE, Beautifully Illustrated, ... 8.50
THE NEW CHILD'S PLAY, Beautifully Illustrated, ... 8.50
MISS GREENAWAY'S "UNDER THE WINDOW," ... 2.00
MASON & HAMLIN'S CABINET ORGANS, ... \$90.00
MASON & HAMLIN'S CABINET ORGANS, ... \$130.00
MASON & HAMLIN'S CABINET ORGANS, ... \$200.00
Photograph ALBUMS! Scrap ALBUMS! Stationery CASES, and a Fine Assortment of CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
Hongkong, Dec. 18, 1879. jsl

Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL,
THE HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB
will perform
SHERIDAN'S COMEDY
"SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL"
AT THE
CITY HALL THEATRE,
On the EVENING of MONDAY,
the 29th INSTANT.

Admission (by Tickets only), \$2. Places may be secured at Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & Co's at Noon on WEDNESDAY, the 24th Instant.

Doors open at 8.30 p.m. Performance to Commence PUNCTUALLY at 9 o'clock.
Hongkong, December 18, 1879. de30

THE HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY
will perform
"THE SORCERER"
AT THE
CITY HALL THEATRE,
On THURSDAY,
the 8th January, at 9 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased and places secured at Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & Co's, on and after SATURDAY, the 3rd Proximo.

W. WHEELER,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, December 17, 1879. jsl

"OUR BOYS"
DRAMATIC COMPANY,
comprising the following Artists—
MISS EMILY BLAIN.
MISS MINNIE NORDT.
MISS MRS. NORVILLE.
MESSRS FRANK STUART,
GEO. NORVILLE,
G. CROFTON, AND
HARRY FRANKLIN.
Will arrive EARLY in JANUARY, and will give
THREE PERFORMANCES ONLY.
Full Particulars in future Advertisements.
GEO. NORVILLE,
Business Manager.
Hongkong, December 22, 1879.

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:

PALMA, German barque, Capt. Binge.—Melchers & Co.
HONGKONG, German 3-masted schooner, Captain Carl Oom.—Wieler & Co.
PEIRO, German barque, Capt. Seekamp.—Siemssen & Co.
MOSES B. TOWER, American barkentine, Capt. C. Hall.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
ALICE REED, American barque, Capt. J. H. Kilb.—Melchers & Co.
AMY TURNER, American barque, Captain A. W. Newell.—Russell & Co.
LAUREL, British barque, Capt. Johnson.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.
MIDDLESEX, British barque, Captain A. Walsh.—Boroso Company.

To-day's Advertisements.

A GREAT THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE
will take place in the
TUNG HING THEATRE,
T O - M O R R O W (Wednesday)
NIGHT.

When the OHIM CHUNG FUI COMPANY will appear. The Entertainment to commence at 10 o'clock.

On the Evening of THURSDAY, the 25th, A WAR-LIKE PERFORMANCE—all the Instruments real Weapons, used in Battle.

On the Evening of FRIDAY, there will be a GRAND PERFORMANCE of JUGGLING, Fire-Eating, &c.

The TUNG HING THEATRE has recently been newly fitted with Magnificent Chinese lanterns and is now brilliantly illuminated. There will be a Grand display of Flowers. These special performances of great excellence are to be given on the occasion of the Foreign and Chinese Christmas.
Admission, First-class, ... \$1.
Commencing every night at 10 o'clock.
Hongkong, December 23, 1879.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.

(Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates for HANKOW and Ports on the YANGTZE.)

The Company's Steamship "MENELAUS,"
Capt. E. BILLINGS, will be despatched on or about the 1st January, 1880.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, December 23, 1879.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

ON and after the 27th Instant (SATURDAY), the BUSINESS of the ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION will be Carried on at No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD, Central, the Premises lately occupied by the AGRA BANK.

GEO. O. SCOTT,
Manager.
Hongkong, December 23, 1879.

WANTED.

THE CHINESE REPOSITORY,
1892-51, complete.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository, 1863-65, 3 vols.

Notes and Queries on China and Japan, 1867-70, 4 vols.

The China Review, or Notes and Queries on the Far East, Vols. I and II.

Transactions of the China Branch of the R. A. Society, Hongkong, 1848-59, 6 Parts.

Journal of the N. C. Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, from 1858 to 1878 (also Vol. I., containing Journal of the Shanghai Literary and Scientific Society).
Answer to "H.J.H.T.," China Mail Office.
Hongkong, December 23, 1879. de30

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from Messrs ARNOLD, KARBBERG & Co., to sell by Public Auction (unless previously disposed of by Private Contract), on

THURSDAY,
the 8th of January, 1880, at 2 p.m., on Board—The
GERMAN BRIG "CARL,"

of 225 Registered Tons, as she now lies at anchor off Yow-mah-tee, with all her MASTS, SAILS, and INVENTORY, complete.
For further Particulars, apply to Messrs Arnold, Karberg & Co.; or, to the Auctioneer.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.
F. RAFF,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, Dec. 23, 1879. jsl

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Dec. 23, Churruca, Spanish steamer, 398, R. de Haros, Iloilo Dec. 18, Sugar.—REMEDIOS & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Dec. 23, Jessie McDonald, for London.
23, Queen of India, for London.
23, Thoon Kramon, for Bangkok.
23, Kingchow, for Hoihow.
23, Belled Will, for Cebu.
23, China, for Ningpo and Shanghai.
23, Hongkong, for Manila.

CLEARED.

Yotung, for Swatow.
Ighigenia, for New York.
Komulus, for Manila.
Hiram Emery, for Singapore.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per Diamante, for Manila, Mr St. C. Valsey, and 82 Chinese.
Per Kingchow, for Hoihow, 42 Chinese.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS will close:—

For MANILA.—
Per barque Garmora, at 7.30 a.m. Tomorrow, the 24th inst.

For SWATOW, AMOY, & FOCHOOW.—
Per Douglas, at 5 p.m., on Wednesday, the 24th inst.

For HIOGO, YOKOHAMA, AND NAGASAKI.—
Per Takasago Maru, at 5 p.m., on Friday, the 26th inst.

For BANGKOK.—
Per Rajanathunhar, at 5 p.m., on Friday, the 26th inst.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.

3 p.m.—American Mail leaves for Yokohama and San Francisco.
Crusader leaves for Port Darwin, Cooktown, &c., on or about this date.

11 p.m.—French Mail leaves for Ports of Call and Europe.

Tenders Close.
Noon.—Tenders for Building Quarters received at Naval Store Office.

Auction.
2 p.m.—Auction of Japanese Ware, &c., at Mr J. M. Armstrong's Sales Rooms.

Amusement.
10 p.m.—Theatrical Performance at the Tung Hing Theatre.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Established A.D. 1841.
香港大藥房

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
IMPORTERS

OF
DRUGGISTS' Sundries, NURSERY REQUISITES, TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH, AMERICAN, AND FRENCH PATENT MEDICINES.

MANUFACTURERS
OF
Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water, Gingerale, Potass Water, Sarsaparilla Water, and other Aerated Waters.

The Manufactory is under direct and continuous European Supervision.
Hongkong, June 1, 1876.

The publication of this issue commenced at 8.00 p.m.

THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DEC. 23, 1879.

THE Cabinet Council which was summoned for Friday last, the 19th inst., to "discuss the situation in Afghanistan" has now a difficult and apparently a serious "situation" to consider. This may be said in a political as well as a party sense, for the delay of a settlement in Afghan must materially affect the prospects of the Conservative Cabinet.

It is not pleasant to hear that the British reinforcements are obstructed, and that the telegraphic communication with Cabul is interrupted. Still less pleasant is it to learn the sad loss in officers and men that attended the last fight, although it was a victory over great odds. But, in view of the careful preparations that were being made, the collection of supplies at Cabul, and the unwavering belief we entertain of the staunchness of our troops, it is at least reasonable to entertain a lively hope that all will yet go well with British arms in that unsettled country.

WE have frequently heard that the subordinate European assistants connected with the Chinese Preventive Service were lacking in that consideration so necessary to a courteous discharge of their duties, when native boats were concerned. But we confess to some surprise at the facts so plainly and circumstantially recorded in the letter from "G. R.," published in another column. It is not too much to say that the gentlemen feeling so generally prominent in the superior officers of the Revenue Cruisers which so faithfully guard our harbour entrances are seldom marred by petty insolence such as that described in the communication referred to; and we therefore conclude that the Europeans in question who stopped the private launch conveying the picnic party must have been men of a boorish disposition and an uncultivated nature, whose ideas of courtesy and powers of discrimination were either very confused or imperfectly developed. Apart from the greater question of how the objectionable features of the Blockade may be made still more vexatious by the employment of men of this stamp, it becomes of some importance to residents here to find that they cannot peacefully cruise a mile or two around either end of the Harbour limits without the chance of being stopped or fired into, or searched and insultingly treated by men of the low class we have sketched above. It is fortunate, perhaps, for all parties that there was a lady present in the launch that was so rudely overhauled; otherwise the reception given to the intrusive foreigners might have led to awkward consequences. Such incidents are not calculated to smooth matters on either side, and are to be regretted from every point of view. It is to be hoped, therefore, that this case will be brought before the proper authorities, and that a little light may thus be thrown upon the subject,—how far such annoyances are to be permitted upon peaceful pleasure parties. Fortunately in this case the lady and gentlemen inconvenienced are German residents, and therefore some vigorous remonstrances may be expected. If the annoyance they have suffered should lead to a more considerate treatment of parties similarly situated in the future, they will have the satisfaction of having conferred a benefit upon the pleasure-seekers of Hongkong. The unmannerly fellows who were guilty of the insult ought to be severely dealt with.

While on this subject of outdoor Customs employes, we may mention a suggestive incident which recently took place at Canton. The smuggling of opium which is known to exist by means of the river steamers between Hongkong, Macao and Canton has been the subject of repeated remark, and the cunning devices resorted to by the natives concerned to conceal their contraband

are not only amusing but are fraught with much inconvenience to the steamers officers as well as to the tidewaterers or seachers in the Customs department. It is well known that every facility is given to the Customs officials to discover the object of their search, and it not infrequently happens that the coal-bunkers are thoroughly emptied under the correct or mistaken impression that the coal is mixed with balls of opium. When this is done, and no opium is found, the task of replacing the coal falls upon the crestfallen excisemen, and this would appear to be a rather unpopular piece of duty. It so happened, therefore, a few days ago, that the steamer *White Cloud* arrived at Canton on her usual trip from Macao, and the coal-bunkers were thoroughly overhauled by the eager searchers after the drug. As no opium was likely to reward the Customs agents, it is said that a bold scheme suggested itself of ingeniously introducing a couple of balls into the said bunkers, so as to avoid the disagreeable necessity of replacing the coal. While the unloading was being proceeded with, therefore, two balls of the drug were being quietly smuggled on board by one of the Customs folks; but, horrible to relate, the anti-smuggling smuggler was caught in the act, and the neat little scheme collapsed because of its clumsy promoter. As we have said, the incident, though not in itself highly criminal, is very suggestive, as indicating the character of some of those engaged in the lower ranks of the Customs service. We have every reason to believe that this would-be smuggling gentleman was fully reminded of the error of his ways by Commissioner McKean, and that there is a strong probability that a dodge of the same kind will not be attempted by any one for some time to come.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "CHINA MAIL,"
(Per E. E. A. & O. Telegraph Co.'s Line.)

LONDON, December 19.

Telegraphic communication with Cabul is interrupted.

The British reinforcements are obstructed.

A Cabinet Council is to be held to-day to discuss the situation in Afghanistan.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The next FRENCH MAIL may be expected to arrive on or about Christmas Day, by the M. M. steamer *Petho*.

WE are informed that the O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Menelaus*, from Liverpool, left Singapore this morning for Hongkong.

THE P. & O. steamer *Bokhara*, we are informed by the Superintendent, left Singapore for this port at 9 o'clock this morning.

THE case in which a soldier of the 27th Inniskillings and a Chinaman are accused of having committed an unnatural offence was again before the Magistrates this morning and was further remanded till to-morrow.

THE French mail will be closed at the same hours as were notified last week for the English Mail. A memorandum of these hours is given elsewhere. As an experiment, however, the Post Office will to-morrow be kept open till 5.30 in the afternoon, giving half an hour's grace and allowing of the posting of correspondence coming from offices who are hard at work till 5 o'clock.

THERE will be a local delivery from the Post Office on Christmas Day at 9 a.m. Correspondence intended for it must be posted in the night box after 5 p.m. on Wednesday, or sent to the Post Office with a special request for retarded delivery.

By the arrival of the *Churruca* from Iloilo, we learn that an extremely severe typhoon took place at Cebu, on the 12th inst. Very few particulars are to hand as yet, but from the facts reported the hurricanes must have been of terrific force. Among the vessels wrecked are the American ship *Twilight*, the British barque *Hopewell* and the French barque *Marie*; but no mention is made of any loss of life. A large number of houses are said to have been blown down, and all the coasting vessels in the harbour at the time are said to have been wrecked. The steamer *Sorsogon* left Cebu about two hours before the hurricane commenced and having anchored outside escaped serious damage. She then proceeded to Iloilo, from which place the *Churruca* brings the intelligence to this port. The tidal wave would appear to have assumed very considerable dimensions and to have caused great destruction, our information going to show that large quantities of sugar stored in go-downs on shore have been destroyed by that means. The *Hopewell*, Capt. Longlois, 578 tons, left Hongkong on the 24th October for Cebu; the *Twilight*, Capt. Wetland, 1303 tons, left this port for Cebu on the 26th ulto. The *Marie*, Capt. Alexandre, left Manila about the 24th for Cebu. This is the second typhoon reported as passed over the vicinity of these Islands within a few weeks.

SOME little commotion was caused last night by an alarm of fire at Kowloon. It turned out that fire had broken out in one of five matchboxes on the west side of the Dock, occupied temporarily by some of the men of

the *Vencedora*, which vessel has been recently under repair. There was also some of the ship's gear, but the ship's furniture and a number of the men had already gone back on board the vessel, the work on which is now completed. The *Iron Duke*, the *Victor Emmanuel* and the *Egeria* all sent men on shore at once, and they were, from being so near the scene of the fire, promptly there. Even before their arrival the *Vencedora*'s men had pulled down the sheds to prevent the conflagration spreading and with the Dock hand pump had done something to put out the fire. The whole affair was over in less than an hour. Inspector Cameron, from You Mah Ti, and Inspector Matheson of the Water Police were on the spot smartly and contributed in no small degree to the prompt suppression of the conflagration. Inspector Orley of the Fire Brigade was present, but the fire it was seen from the beginning was of such a nature as could be dealt with by means at hand, and there was no necessity for calling out the Brigade.

THE following dignified grumble appears in the *Hioغو News* of the date Dec. 6th:—

Complaints have been rife "around town" because the *Takasago*-maru did not bring on the Kobe portion of the French mail; which, if we are not misinformed, left Hongkong on the same day as the *Takasago* sailed, but by way of Yokohama, thus entailing a delay of several days in the receipt of our mails in Kobe.

The recently effected transfer of the manipulation of the Hongkong mails from the British to the Japanese postal authorities—technically, this is not yet accomplished—has no doubt something to do with the matter, but there is every reason to believe that as soon as things have shaken themselves down such a cause of complaint will not again arise. Mr. Lister is, as all who know him will agree, most anxious to do what he can to accommodate the public. There are naturally difficulties in the way, not only in connection with the change in the medium through which correspondence at this end is to be received and distributed, but also in connection with the conveyance of letters through the agency of the recently established line. The advantages of the latter, in point of economy of time, are so great that the public naturally feel annoyed at missing the opportunity of getting their home correspondence some days earlier than they will now do.

It may be interesting to explain how the mail forming the basis of this complaint was not sent on, and it may appease our esteemed contemporary and tone down the wrath of the *Hioغو* people to know how the glaring injustice from which they suffered was effected. In the Post Office there used to be a rule under which the weight of every mail sent by Sea Service was noted to a nicety, and accounts balanced every month between the Po. Offices by which these mails were conveyed. This system was cumbersome and the public were the sufferers inasmuch as the latest hour for posting had to be made earlier than it would otherwise have been, by the necessity that existed for weighing to an ounce all the mails. This old-fashioned style of things was abolished by the Treaty and in its place came the system of making a strict account for one month an average for two years. The day of the arrival of the French mail here was included in this statistical month and it was hardly to be expected that the Postmaster General would, for the sake of one or two days early delivery of the *Hioغو* mail, allow the heavy consignments of letters and papers to go on then by the *Mitsu Bishi* steamer. The mails were forwarded in the usual way to allow of the average month being something like a fair criterion of the two years' work. This was the only course open which was fair to all parties interested. Had the means been taken which would have most expeditiously sent the English mail on to *Hioغو*, a fair balance of all accounts would have been prevented and much departmental irregularity and confusion have been the result. The *Hioغو* folks, we hope, will not grumble more. They have been well served since, the last mail having gone direct, and this week's French mail going too by the M. B. steamer, if it is in time.

THE annual meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China was held at the Freemasons' Hall last evening, 22nd inst., when a gathering of the brethren assembled under the presidency of the Very Worshipful D. D. Grand Master (C. P. Chater). After the usual formal business was disposed of, the D. D. G. M., addressing the Brethren, said they would be glad to learn that the health of their Right Worshipful Grand Master (T. G. Linthead) was steadily improving, although he had been seriously ill on his passage to England. The death of the Hon. W. T. Mercer, who for many years filled the post of District Grand Master for China, was next referred to in feeling terms, and a letter of condolence to Mrs. Mercer was unanimously voted; while the D. D. G. M. passed a high tribute on the character and labours of their late R. W. Brother. It was next stated that, in conformity with instructions from the Grand Lodge of England, the Lodge St. John, S. C. had been fully recognised, and the Worshipful Master had been duly installed here; he now hoped that the Lodge would all work in harmony, and

